



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Takashi DATE et al

For: THERMALLY-SENSITIVE RECORDING MATERIAL

Serial No.: 10/551 675

Group: 1794

Confirmation No.: 5519

Filed: September 29, 2005

Examiner: Hess

International Application No.: PCT/JP2004/004667

International Filing Date: March 31, 2004

Atty. Docket No.: 4364.P0013US

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

I, the undersigned, hereby declare as follows:

I am one of the inventors of the invention described and claimed in application Serial No. 10/551 675, filed on September 29, 2005.

I hereby incorporate by reference herein the contents of the Examples and Comparative Examples contained on pages 19-33 of application Serial No. 10/551 675.

I have prepared additional tests to illustrate the importance of the claimed acrylic polymer and chain colloidal silica in forming the thermally sensitive recording medium of the present invention.

Additional comparative thermally sensitive recording mediums were prepared in which the acrylic emulsion/colloidal silica composite resin of Hata et al was used except that the composite resin had a higher spherical colloidal silica content than in Comparative Example 3 of application Serial No. 10/551 675. The compositions are shown below in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Composition of Example 1, Comparative Example 3, Revised Comparative Example 3' and Revised Comparative Example 3"

Example 1

	acrylic polymer	chain colloidal silica	Total
conc. (%)	40	21.5	
wet parts	20	20	
dry parts	8	4.3	12.3

Comparative Example 3

	Movinyl 8020	spherical colloidal silica	Total
conc. (%)	40	10	
wet parts	20	-	
dry parts	7.8	0.2	8

Revised Comparative Example 3' (total dry parts is fixed)

	Movinyl 8020	spherical colloidal silica	Total
conc. (%)	40	10	
wet parts	30	-	
dry parts	10.8	1.2	12

Revised Comparative Example 3"

(amount of total colloidal silica is fixed)

	Movinyl 8020	spherical colloidal silica	Total
conc. (%)	40	10	
wet parts	100	-	
dry parts	36	4	40

The above compositions were evaluated for color-developing sensitivity, water resistance, printing aptitude and dregs on a head. The results are shown below in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Evaluation results

	Color developing sensitivity (1) / (2)	Water resistance	Printing aptitude	Dregs on a head
Example 1	0.91/1.23	○	○	○
Comparative	0.85/1.29	✗	✗	✗
Example 3				
Revised Comparative Example 3'	0.83/1.16	△	✗	✗
Revised Comparative Example 3"	0.60/0.85	○	△	✗

DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

Although Comparative Examples 3' and 3" had higher silica contents than Comparative Example 3, they still exhibited inferior results to Example 1 of the present invention due to the spherical colloidal silica being provided covering the polymer particles as opposed to the colloidal silica and acrylic polymer being provided as required in the present invention. As a result, the properties of the inventive composition is clearly superior to that of the comparative examples.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Dated: 2008/11/27

Nagai Tatsuo
(Signature)

—プロローグ—

Clariant

LBU Emulsions R&D Team

コロイダルシリカ複合合成樹脂エマルジョン

基礎技術

COLLOIDAL SILICA COMPOSITE SYNTHETIC RESIN EMULSION

Technical information

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Nov. 2002

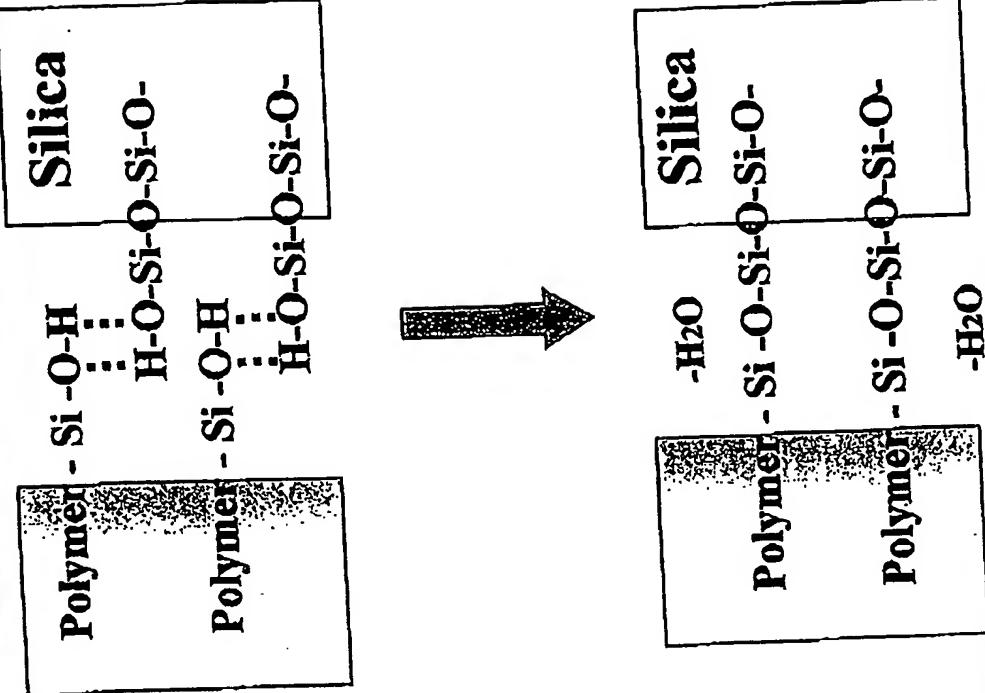
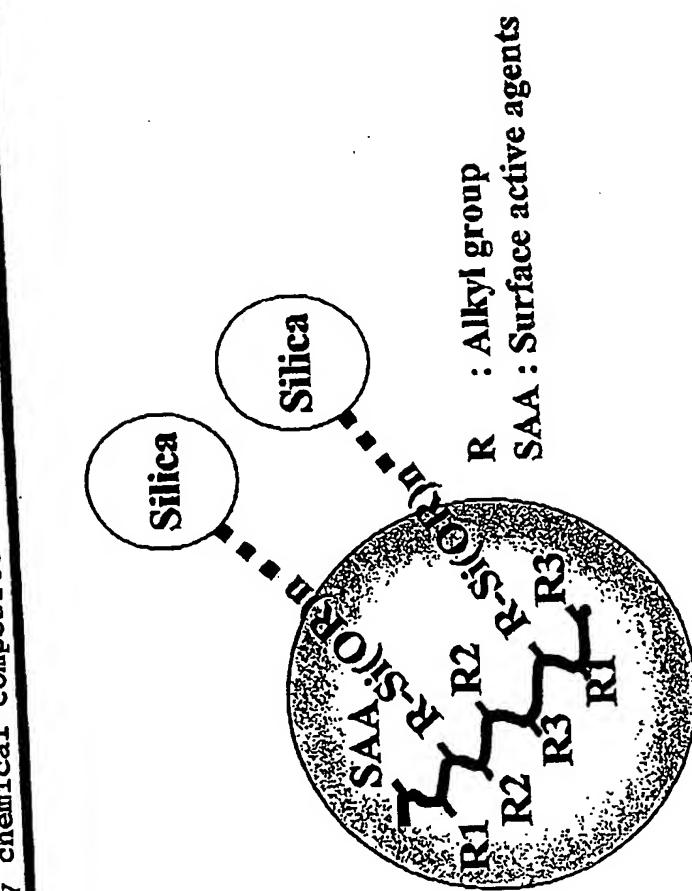
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無機物+有機物の化学的複合化により...

By chemical composite of Inorganic compound+organic compound



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(2)

無機粒子と有機粒子の立体的な相互関係 を利用して... inorganic particles and organic particles

Using steric mutual relationship between

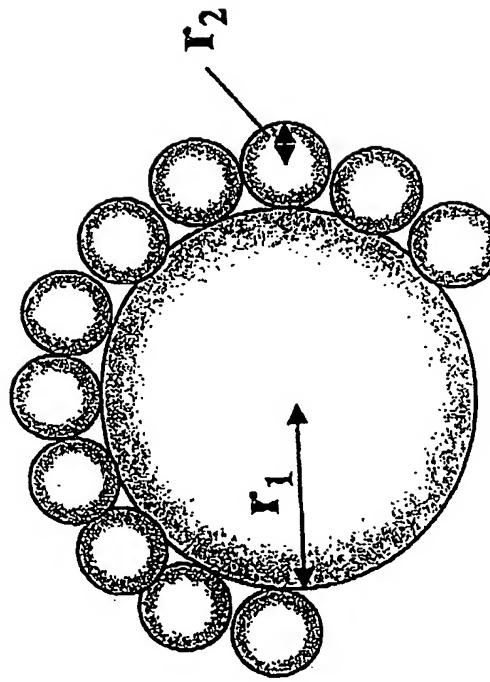
LBU Emulsions R&D Team

$$N_M = 2 \pi (r_1 + r_2)^2 / \sqrt{3 \cdot r_2^2}$$

N_M : Maximum number of the small particle can cover completely the big particle

r_1 : a radius of the big particle (polymer particle)

r_2 : a radius of the small particles (silica particles)



F.K. Hansen and E. Matijevic : J. Chem. Soc. Faraday Trans. I, 74, 1346 (1980)

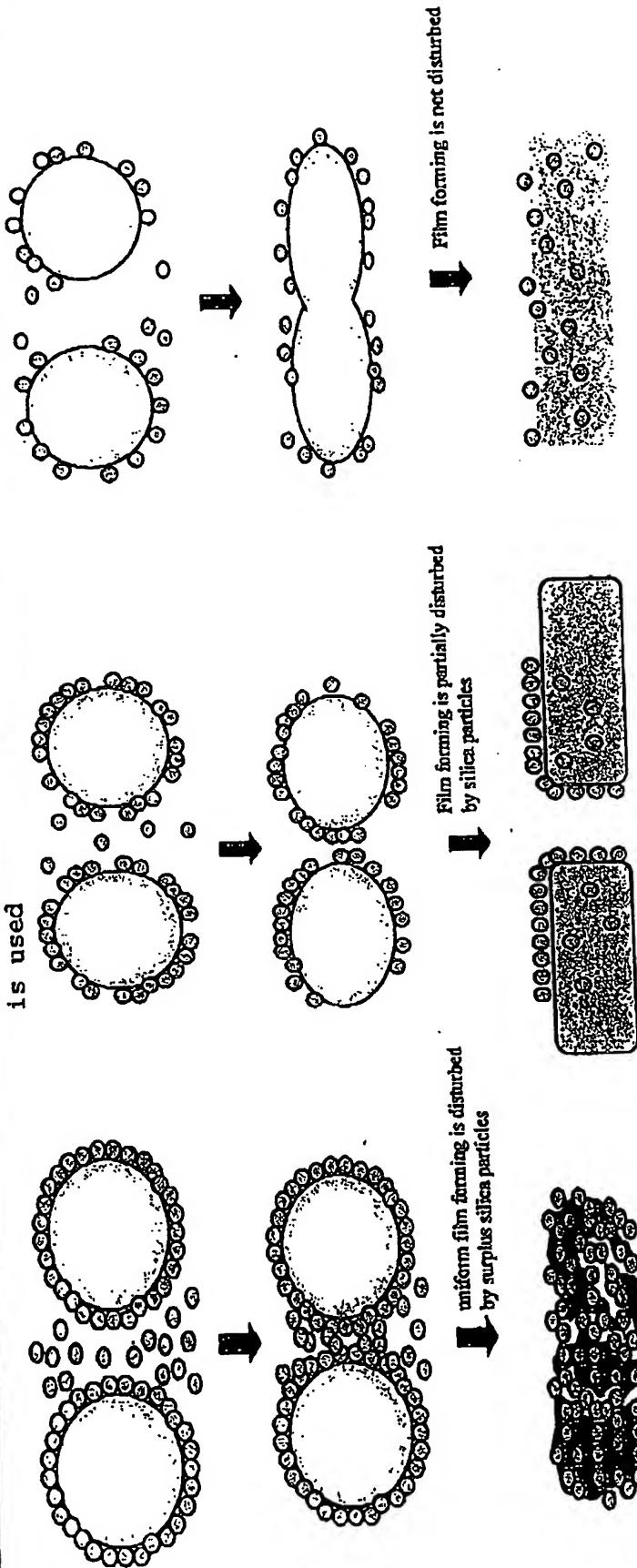
Nov. 2002

(3)

無機物+有機物の複合化による樹脂粒子 の融着阻害を利用すると...



when fuse adhesion inhibition of
resin particles by composite of
inorganic compound + organic compound
is used



$a / N_M < 0.2$
It can form a uniform film

$a / N_M = 0.2-4$
It can form a porous film

$a / N_M > 5$
It can not form a uniform film

a : the number of silica particles per one polymer particle
 N_M : the maximum number of the small particles which can cover completely a polymer particle

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(4)

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特殊な細孔を有すフィルムが得られます！-1

film having specific fine pores can be obtained

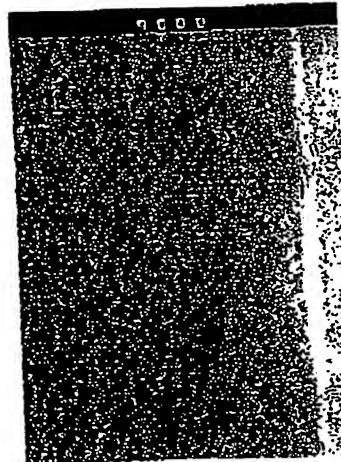
Emulsion: 50wt%

silica : 50wt%

small

Silica particle size

large



small

Emulsion particle size



Coating on glass plate
Drying at r. t.

X45,000

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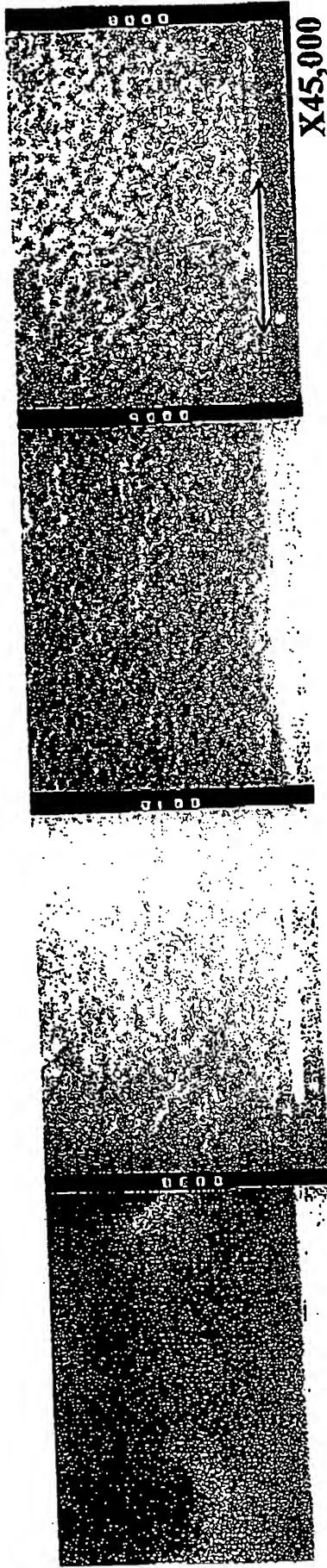
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film having specific fine pores can be obtained



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Received the following RCE Application:

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Filing Date: September 29, 2005

Examiner: Hess

Group: 1794

Fees: \$940.00 (Check Deposit CCT)

Other: Application Transmittal with

One Month Time Extension (2 pages)

Letter to Examiner with

Declaration Under 37 CFR 1.132 and

Clariant Technical Brochure

Our Ref: 4364.P0013US

Express Mail Cert. (Label No. EM 212 650 675 US)

Due: November 30, 2008 (Sunday)

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